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WEDNESDAY
JUNE 16, 1954

Bob Kleiman came to see me this morning and we talked about EDC and Indo-China.

Upon instructions from the Department, we have drafted a tentative note to be sent, on a proper occasion, by President Eisenhower to the next French Foreign Minister. It reads as follows:

"Excellency:

"I am deeply concerned regarding the intentions of the French Government with reference to the ratification of the Paris Treaty, establishing a European Defense Community, and the Bonn Treaty, comprising the Contractual Agreements, with Germany. These treaties were signed in May 1952 by the duly authorized representatives of the governments concerned. Shortly thereafter, the Bonn Treaty was ratified by the United States Senate in accordance with our constitutional processes. The governments of the United Kingdom and the Federal Republic likewise ratified the Treaty in accordance with ~~their own constitutional~~ processes. Of the four parties signatory to the Treaty, only France has failed to act. Moreover, as Your Excellency is aware, four of the ~~six members of the~~ proposed European Defense Community have now completed action on the Paris Treaty.

DEPARTMENT OF STATE A/CDC/MR
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"From time to time the French Government has put forward various conditions to be met prior to a decision by the French Parliament on the Paris Treaty. In the fulfillment of these conditions the French Government has had the full cooperation and support of the United States and the United Kingdom and of the other prospective members of the European Defense Community. 'Ad referendum' agreements have been reached on the Saar and on the signature of protocols to the EDC Treaty and the few remaining details to be settled depend upon the initiative of the French Government.

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"In April of this year, after consultation with leaders of both Houses of the United States Congress, I made a statement of the political and military policies of the United States as a signatory of the North Atlantic Treaty. These assurances afforded at the request of your Government are conditional upon the coming into effect of the EDC Treaty. My Government has a particular interest, therefore, in the intentions of the French Government, because of its concern regarding its present overall policies with regard to Europe and the possible necessity to bring about some alteration in those policies.

"I believe that we can no longer delay the full political, economic, and military association of the Federal Republic with the Western nations without risk of setting in motion developments opposed to the basic security interests of our two nations. With regard to the Bonn Treaty as our first specific problem, it seems to me unwise and indeed objectionable further to deprive the Federal Republic of the rights, privileges and obligations provided for in the Treaty. I therefore find it necessary to inform you that unless the Bonn and Paris Treaties are shortly brought into force, my Government will consider it necessary, in consultation with the British Government, to consider with the Federal Republic what practical step or steps can be taken to grant the Federal Republic a position at least equivalent to that provided for in the Bonn Treaty.

"Please accept, Excellency, the assurances of my highest consideration."

Mendès France will present himself for investiture tomorrow. He will get a large vote but it is thought by the Embassy he will fall short of the necessary constitutional majority of 314 voices, excluding the Communists.

Tonight we dined with the Elie de Rothschilds. The great bottles on this occasion were magnums of Ch. Lafite 1933. After dinner we had a selection of liqueurs which Elie had bought at the liquidation sale of the Restaurant La Rue.

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The demise of this restaurant was a sad blow for the old gourmets of Paris. It had occupied its proud place opposite the Madeleine for over 100 years but has been swept away by the lower prices of the neighboring bistro. It used to have a considerable American clientele. Messrs. Henry C. Frick, A. W. Mellon, and other Pittsburghers, during their sojourns in Paris, spent much of their time in its private rooms playing poker.

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